

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH

CITY HALL 1700 CONVENTION CENTER DRIVE MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA 33139
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COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor David Dermer and
Members of the City Commission

Date: January 12, 2005

From: Jorge M. Gonzalez
City Manager

Subject: **REPORT OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER
21, 2004.**

A meeting of the Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee was held on Tuesday, December 21, 2004 at 2:30 p.m. in the City Manager's Large Conference Room. Commissioners in attendance: Matti Herrera Bower, Richard L. Steinberg, and Saul Gross. City staff in attendance: Christina Cuervo, Assistant City Manager; Vivian P. Guzman, Director – Neighborhood Services; Max Sklar, Assistant Director – Tourism and Cultural Development; Graham Winick, Film and Print Coordinator; Jimmy McMillion, Special Projects Coordinator – Neighborhood Services; Linette Nodarse, Margarita Alcon, Dolores Mejia; and Randi MacBride. Others in attendance are listed in the attached sign-in sheet.

OLD BUSINESS

1. DISCUSSION REGARDING SPECIAL EVENT GUIDELINES REVISIONS.

Max Sklar, Assistant Director – Tourism and Cultural Development presented this item which included some revisions made as a result of the last Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee meeting including the additional list of examples of accessory hotel uses not requiring a special events permit. Commissioner Steinberg and Commissioner Bower voiced their concerns that someone may claim to be a charity event by offering a minimal donation to a charitable organization thereby bypassing the requirement of a special event permit. It was agreed to add a clarifying definition of a charity event as it applies to the need for a special events permit and that fee waivers should only be offered to applicants who are 501 (c) 3 non-profit entities and not to applicants who partner with a non-profit in order to receive the benefit.

Mr. Sklar explained that his office is beginning to work on the establishment of criteria to recognize neighborhood and business organizations and registering the neighborhood groups. Until such criteria are established, his office will continue with current procedures. The next step in the process is to coordinate with the Neighborhood Services Department to actually register the neighborhood groups.

The consecutive day clause has been amended to not penalize private property by counting permits requested related to certain city-wide events as part of the five permits they are allowed at this time. Commissioner Bower requested this be brought to the public for opinion or be brought to the Planning Board for further discussion.

Commissioner Bower expressed concern that South Pointe Park along with Flamingo Park were left out of the Special Event Zones list for Class C, D, and E. Commissioner Steinberg remarked that the city is spending money on renovation of South Pointe Park and it wouldn't be right to exclude this area. It was decided to eliminate the special event zones proposed in the guidelines and review all requests internally and externally to determine compatibility.

No decision was reached regarding whether or not to allow "all ages" events in nightclubs so it was referred to the full Commission for further discussion.

Mr. Gary Knight expressed his concern with allowing trade shows on the beach because of a recently submitted application. The real concern focused on the duration and whether it was open to the public or not. Max Sklar was asked to draft a definition of "Trade Show" and present with the full Commission.

Action: The Committee moved to bring the guidelines to the Planning Board for their review and comment before presentation to the full City Commission.

Attachments

JMG/RCM/VPg/rfm